

In the Claims

1 – 11 (cancelled).

12 (currently amended). A method for reducing the expression of a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) gene and RSV viral titer in a human subject, comprising administering a vector to airway cells in the subject, wherein the subject does not have an RSV infection at the time the vector is administered, wherein the vector comprises a nucleic acid sequence encoding a short interfering RNA (siRNA) targeted to a target nucleic acid sequence within the RSV NS1 gene or RSV NS1 transcript, and wherein the vector is administered in an effective amount to reduce expression of the RSV NS1 gene or NS1 transcript in the airway cells and reduce RSV titer in the subject.

13 – 43 (cancelled).

44 (previously presented). The method of claim 12, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

45 (previously presented). The method of claim 12, wherein the vector is a non-viral vector.

46 (new). The method of claim 12, wherein the vector comprises a plasmid.